

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/510,782	02/23/00	KRYSIAK	M

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PM51/0921

EXAMINER
NGUYEN, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3643	6

DATE MAILED: 09/21/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

<b>Interview Summary</b>	Application No. 09/510,782	Applicant(s) KRYSIAK ET AL.
	Examiner Son T. Nguyen	Art Unit 3643

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Son T. Nguyen. (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) Philip Weiss. (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: 20 September 2001.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference  
 c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.  
 If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

Identification of prior art discussed: Spittle (US 5,916,027) and Morgan (US 6,029,395).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

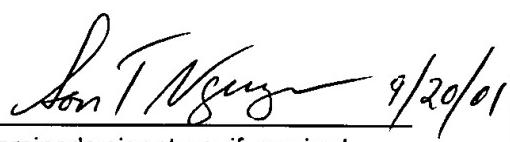
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview(if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
 Son T. Nguyen 9/20/01  
 Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant argues that his method is special in that it is an agglomeration/granulation method to produce a mulch product. However, the steps claimed by Applicant are merely adding, adding and drying, which do not distinguish it from the prior arts. In addition, Applicant argues that the word agglomeration/granulation should have distinguished it from the prior arts. The two words merely mean to form into a round mass (agglomeration) and to form into grains or granules (granulation) which, again, are taught by the prior arts. The Examiner has considered these arguments and have concluded that the final rejection stands.